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CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method in a computer system for providing both
2 directory information and dynamically updated contact
3 information for at least one of a plurality of entities
4 in response to a directory search, said method comprising
5 the steps of:
6 receiving a query criteria;
7 executing a search of a directory database utilizing
8 said query criteria to produce a first result;
9 invoking a dynamic contact information service
10 utilizing said first result to produce a second result
11 containing dynamic contact information, said dynamic
12 contact information being dynamically updated to indicate
13 current contact information;
14 coalescing said first and second results to produce
15 a coalesced result; and
16 providing said coalesced result.
- 1 2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
2 the steps of:
3 executing said search of said directory database
4 utilizing said query criteria to produce said first
5 result which is a null set; and

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1 5. The method according to claim 4, further comprising
2 the step of formatting and displaying said filtered
3 result.

6. The method according to claim 4, further comprising the step of filtering said coalesced result to include within said filtered result only records of a plurality of people whose contact information indicates that said plurality of people are available by a requestor specified means and within a particular period of time.

7. The method according to claim 4, further comprising the step of filtering said coalesced result to include within said filtered result only records of a plurality of people whose contact information indicates that said plurality of people are available to receive a telephone call within a particular period of time.

1 8. The method according to claim 4, further comprising
2 the step of filtering said coalesced result to include
3 within said filtered result only records of a plurality
4 of people whose contact information indicates that said
5 plurality of people are available for an in-person
6 meeting within a particular period of time.

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1 9. The method according to claim 4, further comprising
2 the step of filtering said coalesced result to include
3 within said filtered result only records of a plurality
4 of people whose contact information indicates that said
5 plurality of people are available for communication via
6 instant messaging within a particular period of time.

1 10. The method according to claim 4, further comprising
2 the step of filtering said coalesced result to include
3 within said filtered result only records of a plurality
4 of people whose contact information indicates that said
5 plurality of people are available for receiving a page
6 within a particular period of time.

1 11. The method according to claim 4, further comprising
2 the step of filtering said coalesced result to include
3 within said filtered result only records of a plurality
4 of people whose contact information indicates that said
5 plurality of people are available to check an e-mail
6 account for each of said plurality of people within a
7 particular period of time.

1 12. The method according to claim 4, further comprising
2 the step of filtering said coalesced result to include

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3 within said filtered result only fields specified by a
4 requestor.

1 13. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of specifying sorting preferences for sorting
3 said coalesced result.

1 14. The method according to claim 13, further comprising
2 the step of sorting said records so that said records are
3 displayed in a particular order.

1 15. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of including within said coalesced result a
3 telephone number for each of said plurality of people,
4 said telephone number being a telephone number at which
5 said each of said plurality of people can be reached by
6 telephone during a particular period of time.

1 16. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of including within said coalesced result a
3 physical location for each of said plurality of people,
4 said physical location being a location where said each
5 of said plurality of people can be found during a
6 particular period of time.

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1 17. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of including within said coalesced result a
3 pager address for each of said plurality of people, said
4 pager address being a pager address at which said each of
5 said plurality of people can be reached by paging during
6 a particular period of time.

1 18. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of including within said coalesced result an
3 instant message user name for each of said plurality of
4 people, said instant message user name being an instant
5 message user name at which said each of said plurality of
6 people can be reached via an instant message service
7 during a particular period of time.

1 19. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of including within said coalesced result an e-
3 mail address for each of said plurality of people, said
4 e-mail address being an e-mail address which said each of
5 said plurality of people is expected to check during a
6 particular period of time.

1 20. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of including within said coalesced result an

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3 indication of whether said one or more of said plurality
4 of people is currently utilizing a telephone.

1 21. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of including within said coalesced result an
3 indication of a best current means for contacting each of
4 said plurality of people.

1 22. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of including within said coalesced result an
3 indication of an alternate contact person for each of
4 said plurality of people.

1 23. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of including within said coalesced result an
3 indication of whether said one or more of said plurality
4 of people is available in a particular period of time to
5 be contacted by any means and one or more means for
6 contacting said one or more of said plurality of people.

1 24. A computer program product in a computer system for
2 providing both directory information and dynamically
3 updated contact information for at least one of a
4 plurality of entities in response to a directory search,
5 said computer program product comprising:

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6 instruction means for receiving a query criteria;

7 instruction means for executing a search of a
8 directory database utilizing said query criteria to
9 produce a first result;

10 instruction means for invoking a dynamic contact
11 information service utilizing said first result to
12 produce a second result containing dynamic contact
13 information, said dynamic contact information being
14 dynamically updated to indicate current contact
15 information;

16 instruction means for coalescing said first and
17 second results to produce a coalesced result; and

18 instruction means for providing said coalesced
19 result.

1 25. The product according to claim 24, further
2 comprising:

3 instruction means for executing said search of said
4 directory database utilizing said query criteria to
5 produce said first result which is a null set; and

6 instruction means for invoking said dynamic contact
7 information service utilizing said query criteria to
8 produce said second result.

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1 26. The product according to claim 24, further
2 comprising:

3 instruction means for establishing said directory
4 database including directory records for a first
5 plurality of said plurality of entities, said directory
6 records including directory information for each of said
7 first plurality of said plurality of entities; and

8 instruction means for establishing a dynamic contact
9 information service that provides a dynamic-content
10 record for a second plurality of said plurality of
11 entities, each said dynamic-content record being
12 dynamically updated to indicate current contact
13 information for said each of said second plurality of
14 said plurality of entities.

1 27. The product according to claim 24, further
2 comprising instruction means for specifying filtering
3 preferences for filtering said coalesced result to
4 produce a filtered result.

1 28. The product according to claim 27, further
2 comprising instruction means for formatting and
3 displaying said filtered result.

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1 29. The product according to claim 27, further
2 comprising instruction means for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are
6 available by a requestor specified means and within a
7 particular period of time.

1 30. The product according to claim 27, further
2 comprising instruction means for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are
6 available to receive a telephone call within a particular
7 period of time.

1 31. The product according to claim 27, further
2 comprising instruction means for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are
6 available for an in-person meeting within a particular
7 period of time.

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1 32. The product according to claim 27, further
2 comprising instruction means for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are
6 available for communication via instant messaging within
7 a particular period of time.

1 33. The product according to claim 27, further
2 comprising instruction means for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are
6 available for receiving a page within a particular period
7 of time.

1 34. The product according to claim 27, further
2 comprising instruction means for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are
6 available to check an e-mail account for each of said
7 plurality of people within a particular period of time.

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5 location where said each of said plurality of people can
6 be found during a particular period of time.

1 40. The product according to claim 24, further
2 comprising instruction means for including within said
3 coalesced result a pager address for each of said
4 plurality of people, said pager address being a pager
5 address at which said each of said plurality of people
6 can be reached by paging during a particular period of
7 time.

1 41. The product according to claim 24, further
2 comprising instruction means for including within said
3 coalesced result an instant message user name for each of
4 said plurality of people, said instant message user name
5 being an instant message user name at which said each of
6 said plurality of people can be reached via an instant
7 message service during a particular period of time.

1 42. The product according to claim 24, further
2 comprising instruction means for including within said
3 coalesced result an e-mail address for each of said
4 plurality of people, said e-mail address being an e-mail
5 address which said each of said plurality of people is
6 expected to check during a particular period of time.

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1 43. The product according to claim 24, further
2 comprising instruction means for including within said
3 coalesced result an indication of whether said one or
4 more of said plurality of people is currently utilizing a
5 telephone.

1 44. The product according to claim 24, further
2 comprising instruction means for including within said
3 coalesced result an indication of a best current means
4 for contacting each of said plurality of people.

1 45. The product according to claim 24, further
2 comprising instruction means for including within said
3 coalesced result an indication of an alternate contact
4 person for each of said plurality of people.

1 46. The product according to claim 24, further
2 comprising instruction means for including within said
3 coalesced result an indication of whether said one or
4 more of said plurality of people is available in a
5 particular period of time to be contacted by any means
6 and one or more means for contacting said one or more of
7 said plurality of people.

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6 said CPU executing code for invoking said dynamic
7 contact information service utilizing said query criteria
8 to produce said second result.

1 49. The system according to claim 47, further
2 comprising:

3 said directory database including directory records
4 for a first plurality of said plurality of entities, said
5 directory records including directory information for
6 each of said first plurality of said plurality of
7 entities; and

8 a dynamic contact information service that provides
9 a dynamic-content record for a second plurality of said
10 plurality of entities, each said dynamic-content record
11 being dynamically updated to indicate current contact
12 information for said each of said second plurality of
13 said plurality of entities.

1 50. The system according to claim 47, further comprising
2 said computer system for receiving specified filtering
3 preferences for filtering said coalesced result to
4 produce a filtered result.

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1 51. The system according to claim 50, further comprising
2 said CPU executing code for formatting and displaying
3 said filtered result.

1 52. The system according to claim 50, further comprising
2 said CPU executing code for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are
6 available by a requestor specified means and within a
7 particular period of time.

1 53. The system according to claim 50, further comprising
2 said CPU executing code for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are
6 available to receive a telephone call within a particular
7 period of time.

1 54. The system according to claim 50, further comprising
2 said CPU executing code for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are

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6 available for an in-person meeting within a particular
7 period of time.

1 55. The system according to claim 50, further comprising
2 said CPU executing code for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are
6 available for communication via instant messaging within
7 a particular period of time.

1 56. The system according to claim 50, further comprising
2 said CPU executing code for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are
6 available for receiving a page within a particular period
7 of time.

1 57. The system according to claim 50, further comprising
2 said CPU executing code for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only
4 records of a plurality of people whose contact
5 information indicates that said plurality of people are

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6 available to check an e-mail account for each of said
7 plurality of people within a particular period of time.

1 58. The system according to claim 50, further comprising
2 said CPU executing code for filtering said coalesced
3 result to include within said filtered result only fields
4 specified by a requestor.

1 59. The system according to claim 47, further comprising
2 said computer system for receiving specifyied sorting
3 preferences for sorting said coalesced result.

1 60. The system according to claim 59, further comprising
2 said CPU executing code for sorting said records so that
3 said records are displayed in a particular order.

1 61. The system according to claim 47, further comprising
2 said coalesced result including a telephone number for
3 each of said plurality of people, said telephone number
4 being a telephone number at which said each of said
5 plurality of people can be reached by telephone during a
6 particular period of time.

1 62. The system according to claim 47, further comprising
2 said coalesced result including a physical location for

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3 each of said plurality of people, said physical location
4 being a location where said each of said plurality of
5 people can be found during a particular period of time.

1 63. The system according to claim 47, further comprising
2 said coalesced result including a pager address for each
3 of said plurality of people, said pager address being a
4 pager address at which said each of said plurality of
5 people can be reached by paging during a particular
6 period of time.

1 64. The system according to claim 47, further comprising
2 said coalesced result including an instant message user
3 name for each of said plurality of people, said instant
4 message user name being an instant message user name at
5 which said each of said plurality of people can be
6 reached via an instant message service during a
7 particular period of time.

1 65. The system according to claim 47, further comprising
2 said coalesced result including an e-mail address for
3 each of said plurality of people, said e-mail address
4 being an e-mail address which said each of said plurality
5 of people is expected to check during a particular period
6 of time.

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1 66. The system according to claim 47, further comprising
2 said coalesced result including an indication of whether
3 said one or more of said plurality of people is currently
4 utilizing a telephone.

1 67. The system according to claim 47, further comprising
2 said coalesced result including an indication of a best
3 current means for contacting each of said plurality of
4 people.

1 68. The system according to claim 47, further comprising
2 said coalesced result including an indication of an
3 alternate contact person for each of said plurality of
4 people.

1 69. The system according to claim 47, further comprising
2 said coalesced result including an indication of whether
3 said one or more of said plurality of people is available
4 in a particular period of time to be contacted by any
5 means and one or more means for contacting said one or
6 more of said plurality of people.

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